

U.S.S.N. 09/171,625
KÖSTER *et al.*
ELECTION AND AMENDMENT

Claims 4 and 11-16 are presently pending in this application. Claims 26-36 are cancelled herein without prejudice or disclaimer solely in the interest of advancing the prosecution of this application to allowance. Applicant reserves the right to file divisional applications directed to any cancelled subject matter.

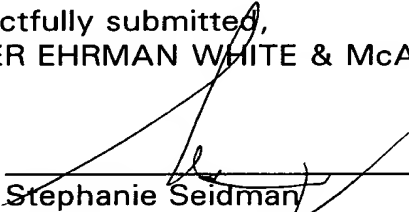
Applicant notes that claims 4 and 11-16 were searched and substantively examined in the Office Action, mailed February 26, 2001. It is respectfully submitted that no further search is required. Therefore, in view of the election herein, allowance of claims 4 and 11-16 is requested.

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In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
HELLER EHRMAN WHITE & McAULIFFE LLP

By:


Stephanie Seidman
Registration No. 33,779

Attorney Docket No. 24743-2302US
Address all correspondence to:
Stephanie Seidman, Esq.
HELLER EHRMAN WHITE & McAULIFFE LLP
4350 La Jolla Village Drive, 7th Floor
San Diego, California 92122
• Telephone: 858 450-8400
• Facsimile: 858 587-5360
email: sseidman@HEWM.com